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19 August 1953

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Copy No. 67

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## CURRENT INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN

DOCUMENT NO. 50NO CHANGE IN CLASS. X

1. UNCLASSIFIED

CLASS. CHANGED TO: TS 2009

NEXT REVIEW DATE:

AUTH: HR 70-2

DATE 12-12-53 REVIEWER: 

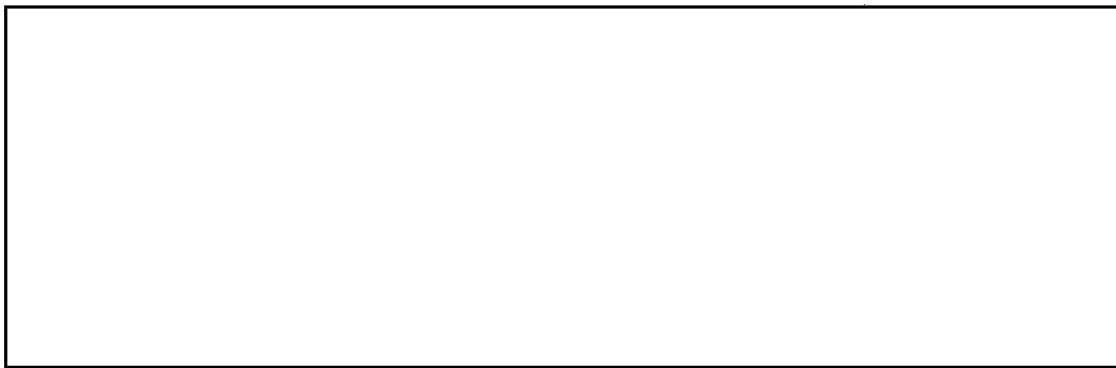
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Office of Current Intelligence

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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State Dept. review completed

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25X1

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S U M M A R Y

GENERAL

1. ICFTU program to contact workers in Orbit countries seen as a major development (page 3).

25X1

NEAR EAST - AFRICA

25X1

5. Arab Legion preparing for Israeli attack in Jerusalem area (page 5).
6. Sultan of Morocco's forced abdication believed imminent (page 5).

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25X1A

- 2 -

25X1A

19 Aug 53

## GENERAL

### 1. ICFTU program to contact workers in Orbit countries seen as a major development:

25X1A

American officials in West Berlin believe that the announced plan of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions to set up a permanent office in West Berlin and to establish contact with Satellite workers is "potentially of great significance." This program may result in coordinated planning such as the West Berlin unions were unable to provide during the 17 June riots in East Germany.

Furthermore, it may meet the need for an international approach to Orbit workers which is not too closely identified with American initiative. If factionalism can be avoided, the new ICFTU move could result in an underground free labor movement similar to that which developed during World War II.

Comment: Following the visit of a 10-man delegation to West Berlin last week, plans were announced for an ICFTU office in Berlin to administer funds intended to "assist" Orbit workers. Although initial plans called for attempts to organize only East German workers, West German initiative persuaded the delegates to expand the program to cover the Soviet Orbit in general. The new program is a follow-up to a resolution to aid East German workers adopted by the ICFTU congress in Stockholm last month.

25X1

25X1A

19 Aug 53

25X1

Approved For Release 2004/07/08 : CIA-RDP79T00975A001200500001-2

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5. Arab Legion preparing for Israeli attack in Jerusalem area:

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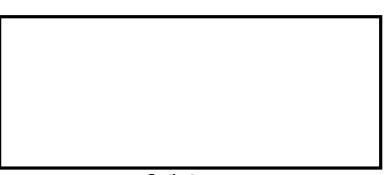
The Arab Legion is reinforcing its troops on Mt. Scopus outside Jerusalem in anticipation of an early Israeli attack, according to the US embassy in Amman.

The American charge suggests that the Jordanian "digging in" in plain view of the Israelis may be calculated to discourage an attack.

Comment: Jordanian defense preparations might be used by Israeli army authorities as an excuse for harassing and retaliatory actions. However, the Israeli government's awareness of inevitable Western opposition to any military action makes it unlikely that it would authorize an extensive attack against the Arabs.

6. Sultan of Morocco's forced abdication believed imminent:

25X1A



The American consul in Rabat reports that the French government will probably attempt to force the sultan of Morocco to abdicate in the near future since he has reversed his previous approval of measures which would cede his power to the French.

25X1A



25X1A

The consul states that the French Residency General prepared for such action by supporting El Glaoui in his moves of 13 and 15 August to strip the sultan of all temporal and religious powers.

Comment: It appears that the French government must now either disavow El Glaoui completely or risk upheaval in Morocco and the international censure that would follow the sultan's ouster.

- 6 -

25X1A

19 Aug 53